

The Economic Impact of Advanced Energy

Few issues have garnered as much attention in recent years as the energy field. Time and again, Congress has passed legislation designed to advance this burgeoning field. **It is imperative to our region that as this sector advances nationally, Ohio's 18th Congressional District holds a seat at the table in how these funds are allocated.**

Numerous studies have indicated that **Ohio has significant opportunity for growth in the advanced energy sector.** One study, prepared by the Political Economy Research Institute at the University of Massachusetts, suggests that **Ohio could stand to gain more than 67,000 jobs with the implementation of certain policies.**¹

Ohio's 18th Congressional District is already uniquely positioned to participate in this new sector. In the field of energy efficiency alone, Ohio's 18th Congressional District is home to a number of companies presently benefiting from investments in **weatherization and other energy efficiency programs.** Examples include:

- **Owens Corning (Newark, OH)** – Owens Corning is one of the premier producers of attic insulation in the nation.
- **JELD-WEN (Mt. Vernon, OH)** – JELD-WEN produces energy efficient windows, helping to save consumers money and maximize the energy efficiency of a home.

Ohio's 18th Congressional District's robust agriculture sector is also pivotal to an investment in advanced forms of energy. Advanced fuels available on the market, as well as those in the research stages, utilize typical agriculture refuse to fuel automobiles and other forms of transportation. **As research continues in this area, the District has immense opportunities to participate in that new section of the economy.**

Lastly, the region's significant manufacturing infrastructure makes it ideal for the production of new manufacturing products. For decades, Ohio's 18th Congressional District has been home to a strong manufacturing sector. However, recent changes in the global marketplace have forced many of these facilities to close their doors. Yet, the region still boasts an infrastructure and a workforce that is second to no one and prepared to cater to new manufacturing facilities constructing these products.

With these key assets in place, Ohio's 18th Congressional District stands to benefit greatly from an expansion of the advanced energy sector. The District is in need of policies that will bring these new jobs to Ohio – and to the 18th Congressional District – rather than to other parts of the country.

RENEW Ohio will continue to identify policies and strategies for delivering this needed economic investment. With the help of industry experts, government officials and others, the document will work to bring needed investment to Appalachian Ohio.

¹ Pollin, Robert; Wicks-Lim, Jean. The Economic Benefits of Investing in Clean Energy. Political Economy Research Institute University of Massachusetts, Amherst, Amherst, MA, 2009.